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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lawrence Yium-chee Chiu et al. Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Serial No.: 09/755,858 Group Art Unit: 2186  
Filed: January 5, 2001 Docket: ARC920000054US1  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING PARITY PROTECTED RAID IN A  
CLUSTERED ENVIRONMENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 15, 2002.

By: [Signature]  
Name: George H. Gates

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal sheet, in duplicate, containing a Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8.
- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449.
- ☒ Cited Reference(s).
- ☒ Return postcard.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

Please charge all fees to Deposit Account No. 09-0441 of IBM Corporation, the assignee of the present application. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

**GATES & COOPER LLP**

Howard Hughes Center  
6701 Center Drive West, Suite 1050  
Los Angeles, CA 90045  
(310) 641-8797

By: [Signature]  
Name: George H. Gates  
Reg. No.: 33,500  
GHG/sjm

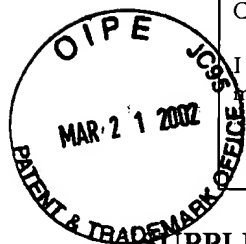
(PTO TRANSMITTAL - GENERAL)

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art". Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please direct any response or inquiry to the below-signed attorney at (310) 641-8797.

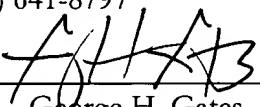
Respectfully submitted,

GATES & COOPER LLP  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Howard Hughes Center  
6701 Center Drive West, Suite 1050  
Los Angeles, California 90045  
(310) 641-8797

Date: March 15, 2002

GHG/sjm

By:   
George H. Gates  
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